

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6686

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 08250

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDIP UG US EG
SUBJECT: UGANDAN AMBASSADOR'S DESIRE ARRANGE MEETING WITH
IDI AMIN

1. AT FONMIN KAMEL'S DINNER LAST EVENING FOR VISITING
BELGIAN FONMIN, UGANDAN AMBASSADOR LTC. JACK BUNYENYEZI
TOOK ME ASIDE. HE FIRST SAID THAT HE EXPECTS AN "IMPOR-
TANT VISITOR" IN EARLY APRIL, WHOM HE WOULD LIKE ME TO
MEET. ASKED WHO THE VISITOR WAS, BUNYENYEZI IDENTIFIED
HIM AS IDI AMIN. AMIN, HE EXPLAINED, IS COMING ON A THREE-
DAY OFFICIAL VISIT TO EGYPT, BUT EXPECTS TO REMAIN ABOUT
A WEEK. SINCE THE AMERICAN AMBASSADORS IN NAIROBI AND
CAIRO ARE THE "ONLY TWO OFFICIAL U.S. REPS IN
THIS AREA," AS BUNYENYEZI PUT IT, HE OPINED IT MIGHT BE
USEFUL IF I WOULD MEET WITH IDI AMIN. I MADE NO COMMIT-
MENT.

2. COMMENT: AS THE DEPT IS AWARE, BUNYENYEZI HAS OFTEN
BEEN CRITICAL OF HIS GOVERNMENT AND PRESIDENT. HE HAS
GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO CULTIVATE GOOD RELATIONS WITH
AMERICAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND HAS ON A NUMBER OF OCCA-
SIONS SOUGHT TO BE HELPFUL TO US. I HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING
WHETHER HIS SUGGESTION IS A PERSONAL ONE OR INSPIRED BY
HIS GOVERNMENT. IN ANY EVENT, I WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE
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AS TO WHETHER THE DEPT SEES ANY VALUE TO MY ACCEPTING AN
INVITATION TO MEET WITH IDI AMIN IN CAIRO IF SUCH AN INVI-
TATION IS IN FACT TENDERED.

3. WHILE GOE WOULD LEAVE MATTER ENTIRELY TO US, SINCE
SADAT CONSIDERS IDI AMIN A "FRIEND", HE WOULD PROBABLY AP-
PRECIATE A WILLINGNESS ON OUR PART TO ALLOW ME TO MEET WITH

AMIN WHILE LATTER IS A GUEST HERE. UP TO NOW, HOWEVER,
EGYPTIANS HAVE SAID NOTHING TO US ABOUT AMIN VISIT. ELTS

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